This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to eliminate multiply dependent claims from the above-identified application.

Examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 25,177

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

August 9, 2000 Date

RWP/jck

Attorney Docket No. SUGI:091

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(rev. 05/00)